



Thurston County health officer honored at celebration

CHELSEA KROTZER/Staff writer

The Thurston County Medical Reserve Corps recognized its founder and county health officer Dr. Diana Yu as Volunteer of the Year earlier this month, according to a news release.

Yu was honored with the first-ever award from during a volunteer appreciation celebration April 9. The Thurston County Medical Reserve is a community-based volunteer program focused on expanding the local public health system's response during health emergency or disasters.

"There are people in the local health community who have known for years that Dr. Yu is a force of nature when it comes to protecting the public's health in our area," stated Don Sloma, director of Thurston County Health and Social Services. "It's really great to see her recognized for all that she does for this community."

Yu was the recipient and now namesake for the new award, honored for her work in public health and creating the group of emergency response volunteers.

"I'm overwhelmed," Yu stated in the release. "You know, all I really did was talk a lot of other people into doing what they love to do - volunteer for their community."